## THE CZAR'S GREAT PROJECT.

LATEST PHASES OF THE TRANS-ASIAN RAILROAD SCHEME.

This Tear's Expenditures to Be Nearly 830,000,000-The Western Part of the Road Will Pay to Build, but the Eastern Half Will Be a Financial Bend Weight-Hopes as to the Foture of the Work.

On the Pacific coast of Siberia in 1801 the Crarewitch turned the first sod of the great Trans-Siberian Railroad. The work was pushed from both ends of the line last year. From Vladlyostock (Empress of the Orient). whose sanguine inhabitants delight to think that their little town will yet become another Constantinople, the line has already been carried up the Ussuri branch of the Amur River, nearly 300 miles. At the west end of the line track laying is advancing slowly toward Omek. and 1897 has been proclaimed as the year when the longest railroad in the world, 4,050 miles in length, shall be completed, though it is more likely that it will only be under good headway then, and that at least a decade will clapse before the last nail is driven.

Though Russia has talked for years of this grandlose project, and the preliminary surveys have been for some time completed, the enterprise in its practical aspects really did not take definite shape until this year. It was only in January last that the Czar appointed the final commission, headed by the Minister of Fiance, to take charge of the work. Thirtynine millions of roubles, or \$29,250,000, were appropriated for this year's expenditures, and a large sum of money was set apart to stimulate immigration into western Siberia; for colonization and road building are to go hand in hand during the progress of the work. It is estimated by the Russian officials in charge entire road will cost 350,000,000 roubles, about one-tenth of which they say will be expended every year until the great work is

finished, ten years from now. As a business venture the western part of the line may undoubtedly be made profitable: but no one knows whether the whole line can ever be made to pay its operating expenses

riage is now extremely expensive, and would be almost impossible were it not for the great Siberian rivers which, during six or seven months in the year, when ice does not impede, carry goods far on the way to and from the mother land, the experts from Russia to its Siberian territories now amount to 55,000,000 roubles a year, while the annual receipts from Siberia of metals, skins, leather, and tallow amount to 09,000,000 roubles a year, while the annual receipts from Siberia of metals, skins, leather, and tallow of Viadivostock amounts to only 7,000,000 roubles a year, showing that Russia's scapper on the Pacific as yet cuts only an insignificant figure in the trade of European Russia with its Asiatic territories.

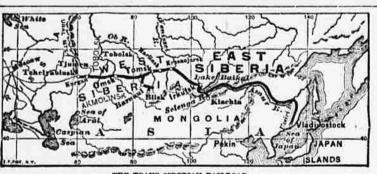
East of Krashojarsk there seems no prospect for many years of developing trade that will add largely to the receipts of the road. In the first place, the most serious problems of building the line are found east of Krashojarsk. The only important bridges to be built through western Siberia are those crossing the Irtysch, Ob, and Yenissei rivers. There are some areas of good soil between Krashojarsk and Irkutsk, the capital of dastern Siberia, but western Siberia is so much pacerer markets, and affords to ecolonization schemes such superior inducements that there is no prospect of anything but a very sparse settlement of the eastern plains for many years to come. There is on the southeast shores of Lake Baikal and in the valley of the Selenga lilver, which is the warmest district in all Siberia and has been called "the Siberian Italy," a region of surpassing fertility. But whether this remote region will in the near future be strongly populated remains to be seen.

From Lake Baikal to the Pacific Ocean the

But whether this remote region will in the near future be strongly populated remains to be seen.

From Lake Baikal to the Pacific Ocean the road will present great engineering difficulties, and is destined always to be almost void of population. There is no cheerful financial outlook for this part of the route, embracing about half of its total length. It will absorb two-thirds of the total cost of the enterprise, and the only hope that it will ever add largely to the income of the road is based upon the idea prevalent in Russia that the road will be able in time to draw a large part of the southern Asiatic trade.

Russia argues in this way. Her economists say that at present it takes thirty-five days to transport freight from Shanghai to Vancouver, thence over the Canadian Pacific Railroad and across the Atlantic to Europe; and that by the more usual route through the Suez Canal to Genoa and Marseilles, forty-three to forty-six days are required; while from Shanghai to Viadivostock and across Siberia by rail, freight may be transported to Europe in from eighteen to twenty days; and they count upon the shorter route to attract the European Asiatic trade and also vastly to increase Russia's commercial relations with the leading countries of southern Asia; for Russian trade with China and Japan of late years has sadiy fallen behind that of Great Britain, France, Germany, and the United States, and the once great caravanroute across the desert to Kiachta, Siberia, and Russia has



THE TRANS-SIBERIAN BAILROAD.

and a fair return on the enormous capital invested. The road is certain to be a heavy drain upon the State treasury, and it may not be operated at a profit for a century to come; but the Russian Government and nation have heartily committed themselves to sal work, for they feel that in many ways its far-reaching results will redound to the enormous advantage of the empire. The colonization of Siberia, the development of its mines and agriculture, the opening of markets for Russian industries, the heightening of Russian influences in east Turkestan, Mongolis, and Manchuria, and the diversion of a part of the trade of China. Japan, and Corea to Russian territory, these and other results are among the ends for which the empire strives. Let us examine briefly some aspects of the undertaking upon which, without doubt, the future of Siberia depends.

The extreme western section of the line now building starts from the little town of Tchelyabinsk, on the eastern slope of the Ural Mountains. The town is already connected, or is soon to be joined by rail, with the two Russian lines that push through the heart of the iron mining region of the south and central southeast toward Omsk. 495 miles away, the capital of western Siberia. Good things are often far to seek, and so the Siberian road toward the land of promise must, at the outset, push across the barren and almost use less waste, skirting for nearly half the way to Omsk the northern edge of the salt steppe of Akmolinak (White Tomb), the home of the Siberian cattle plague, and wide areas atters of earlier of timber and sweet surface water. The Russians, however, cherish the hope that this region nearest their doors may some day be reclaimed; and last year a commission that had been examining the question of water supply and the possibility of colonization in this part of the Kirghis steppe, reported that good water might be obtained by artesian wells, and the land fitted for agriculture by irrigation.

North of this barren region and along the raliceal line between Omak and Martinsk and In the wide areas around Tjumen, Kurgan. Jautorex, Tobolsk, Barnaul, and Bitsk iz a portion of western Siberia that will, in time, become agarden. In area it is an large as a population. Here are millions by the activity to great regions in southern Russia until cropped to death and made thirsty by deforestation. Here are millions for thirsty by deforestation. Here live to-day 2,000,000 people, mostly pure Russians, who within two centuries have been voluntary emigrants from the mother land. There are swampy reaches along the water courses, but most of the land is well adapted to become one of the granaries of the world, and Russia meeds this now almost inaccessible region, for it has been found thirty years after the abolition of serfdom that the agricultural population has in some districts of Russia increased far beyond the ability to scure freeholds; and this is one of the causes which aggravated the two past seasons of famine in that country.

The policy of the Government to-day is to experiment to consequent famine. The tertile areas of western Siberia need this surplus lawor, and the Carl's Government trigonic for the Government to-day is to experiment on the day in the original property of the Government to-day is to experiment on the family seeks by means of the hundreds of thousands of toliers who can now hardly keep soul and body together in Russia to bring these millions of acrea under cultivation. Emigration from the mother land to these great wheat fields cannot now be carried on upon a large scale because of the cost and difficulty in reaching them; and yet from 1885 to 1881 188,000 people left Russia to make new homes in this part of Siberia, and that in spite of the fact that they have as yet very limited onnorthing them; and yet from 1885 to 1881 188,000 people left Russia for make new homes in this part of Siberia, and the resource of the season of the cost and difficulty in reaching them. The season has reg

rouds.
We see, therefore, that that part of the railroad which ends toward the east at or hear
Krasnojarsk has most practicable ends in
view in the development of colonization, agrispitura, and mining. Although freight car-

fallen largely into disuse with the Increase of the ocean trade. Besides the Pacific sea trade, which Russia hopes to stimulate by means of the Siberian railroad, it also proposes to build a branch line from Kiachta to the Siberian road, in the hope that this will again revive the caravan trade from north China.

It is questionable, however, whether Russia will be able to afford advantages in the way of cheap freight rates that will enable her to compete successfully with the present well-established trade routes to Asia. It is, besides, very doubtful if she can make much headway in competition with the European and Américan powers, that have left her far behind in the struggle for the trade of south Asia. Russian writers also seem to everlook the fact that their Pacific port of Viadivostock is closed by ice several months in the year.

In fact, as a highway for the world's trade the present prospects of the Siberian railroad do not seem flattering, and, flgure as they may, publicists of Russia have not succeeded in convincing the economists of other nations that the trans-Asian railroad can be made to par. I shall not discuss here the military and political aspects of the enterprise; but it is really upon these features of the scheme alone, upon the necessity of consolidating her empire and facilitating the defence of her Pacific coast possessions, that Russia can at present justify the expenditure of the normous amount of trans-Asian railroad.

The western half of the road, therefore, is an economic necessity whose development is required by the needs of a large and very valun-

The western half of the road, therefore, is an economic necessity whose development is required by the needs of a large and very valuable part of liussia's territorial possessions. The eastern half of the road is probably destined to make the whole unprofitable as a commercial enterprise, and can be justified only upon grounds of political and military expediency.

CYRUS C. ADAMS.

BY RAIL TO VICTORIA NYANZA.

The Road Has Been Surveyed and the Off-The railroad between the Indian Ocean and

Victoria Nyanza which was surveyed at the to be built. The report of the surveyors has een published, and the friends of the enterprise are gratified to hear that there are no serious difficulties in the way.

Nearly overy enterprise in Africa which in rolves surveying usually brings to light some striking errors in the maps. The surveyors of the Victoria Nyanza railroad have discovered an important error in the position assigned to the eastern shore of the lake. It has been made on our maps to extend too far east. The result is that the railroad will be about a hundred miles longer than was supposed from the estimates made in 1891. The most direct route possible to the northeast shore of the lake has been followed, and it is found that

the road will be 657 miles long.

The estimated cost of the projected railroad is \$11,200,000, or an average of \$17,245 a mile. The gauge proposed is three feet six inches. No tunnels will be necessary, and none of the bridges would be considered in other countries even second class in point of size. Steel rails, weighing fifty pounds to the yard and from thirty to thirty-six feet in length, are recommended, and also steel transverse sleepers, each weighing seventy pounds. It will not be economical and

length, are recommended, and also steel transverse sleepers, each weighing seventy pounds. It will not be economical and hardly practicable to use wood for sleepers. In the road is built entirely of steel it will be practically indestructible by such mechanical appliances as are within reach of the natives. It is also better to use steel, because the outstop of firing the grass and the temptation to use wooden sleepers for fuel or for building huts would expose a line laid with timber sieepers to many risks. White ants also are numerous, and timber can hardly withstand their assaults.

Only a local traffic is expected at the outset, and in order to keep down the working expenses the surveyors recommend that the stations at first be built at least thirty miles apart. Additional stations will be provided later at such points as the traffic demands. The terminal stations will be at Mombasa on the coast and at the northeast corner of Lake Victoria. During the construction of the railroad a telegraph line will be necessary, and the large number of workmen employed and the constant movement along the line will render the telegraph line free from any danger of destruction by the natives. The surveyors anticipate that the construction of the railroad will have a revolutionary effect, and will entirely do away with the Massi raids upon the territory adjacent to the railroad.

For the first two years it is expected that the bulk of the labor on the railroad will have a revolutionary effect, and will have to be imported from India. It will also be necessary to maintain a special railroad police force. The route passes through some of the richest cultivated districts and most populous regions in East Africa. From its terminus on Lake Victoria communication by steamboats plying on the lake will connect the railroad with the fortile districts around the sheres and grant the outlet that is so necessary for the development of these countries.

The general average speed of trains is estimated at twelve miles an hour, including

INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION THE SOLU TION OF THE PROBLEM.

THE FUTURE OF THE NEGRO

pt. Fitzhugh of Kentucky Discusses the Relations of Bincks and Whites-Inter-esting Views on a Great Question.

Reported by T. Thomas Fortune.

Capt. R. H. Fitzhugh of Lexington, Kr., is in the city for a few days. He prides upon two things, that he comes of the Virginia Fitzhughs and that although his father was a prominent pro-slavery advocate and writer, he has not only accepted the results of the war in good faith, but is doing all in his power to smooth out the rough places in the race problem at the South. He came to this city from Geneva. N. Y., where he had been on a visit to Mrs. Charles Miller, a daughter of Gerrit Smith; her mother was a Fitzhugh Capt. Fitzhugh has been spending two months in the North, and has given close attention to the condition of Afro-Americans, with the object of ascertaining whether they thrive any better in this section than in the Southern States. He readily consented to talk for the

What are the relations of the two races at the South to-day?" I asked. The negro and white man have been bushwhacking up to this point," said Capt. Fitz-hugh with gravity. "There has been no organized effort to do anything on the part of either race. What has been accomplished has been the result of individual effort. It is not true that the relations between the two races are more strained than heretofore. On the contrary, they are more cordial and mutually helpful, because better understood by both races. The young men of both races are drawing closer together along all lines, except the social one. This is a natural outgrowth of slave conditions and cannot be wiped out in a generation; but even upon this point I believe that a juster understanding is being gradually reached. For instance, the civil rights of the negro are being more fully recognized every year. The better sort of negroes recognize this fact, and are growing more conservative in their intercourse with the mass of their race, and are more respected by the better sort of whites accordingly. The lawlessness prevalent among the vicious and thriftless both races is condemned by the better class of both races. On the part of the whites this lawlessness must be placed to the credit of what we call the 'poor white trash,' who have always been our unruly element, and were in the slave period called 'patrollers.' They do not now always confine themselves to outrages upon blacks, as prosecutions of White Caps in various parts of the South just now will show. It is as hard to restrain these men from violations of law as it is to restrain the

lawless among the victous blacks. 'It is not generally understood that ninetenths of the money obtained in the South for the building of colored churches, halls, and the like, and for the maintenance of schools. is cheerfully given by the whites, who are constantly extending a beneficent charity which does not cry aloud from the housetops. All our servants are negroes. We do not want and will not have white servants. In the North this rule is reversed. Many of our merchants employ negroes in confidential capacities, and, while giving them an opportunity to earn a living, afford them also an opportunity to acquire the rudiments of a business education. in which they are so sadly deficient, and without which they cannot hope for any success along business lines."

What is your opinion of the system of education which has prevailed in the South since the war?"

"Very poor," said Capt. F.tzhugh, emphat-ically. "I wish I had with me the address deivered by the Mayor of Lexington recently to the colored schools. I would like to make a quotation from it. I believe that too much at quotation from it. I believe that toe much attention is given to educati n and too little to direction. They do not know what to do with the education after they get it. When we consider the occupations to which they are restricted, it is not an easy matter to determine what sort of education is best suited to the needs of the Afro-American. In conversation with Col. Thomas Wen worth Higginson white I was in Boston, he said that uniformly the negro seemed to gravitate to menial occupations, and he cited the remarkable number of educated men of that race employed in the sleeping-car service. Of course I do not avree with him. Men accept the cleanest and most profitable employment open to them. If negroes c uld secure better employment than that to which they are restricted, they would promptly accept it.

profitable employment open to them. If negroes c uld secure better employment than that to which they are restricted, they would promptly accept it.

"In my town the best elements among Afro-Americans are forming organizations of a high character, which are exercising an educational influence on the race. Of course in dustrial education is what these people need most at this time. Three-fourths of all educational effort should be industrial. It is being generally accepted that we are having too much literary education for both blacks and whites. This is a day of labor among us Southern people. We are comparatively poor and should be taught how best to work. I am in full sympathy with the tendency toward larger industrial education, and I trust the tendency will grow more pronounced. The negro needs to be taught emphatically that the solution of the race problem rests with him, aided by the white man, and not with the white man, aided by him, This should be an essential element in all his education.

"A great many people say to me that I ought to get the charter of the Colored Orphan's and Aged Woman's Home Board of Lexington so amended that it will be controlled by whites instead of by blacks; but I tell them no, because intese people need the education necessary to the management of such institutions. I take an interest in this home because it is needed.

"There is a large and constantly growing element among the Afre-American population distinguished for high educational and moral influence. The old saying that one negro is as good as another is no longer true. The better element is rapidly segregating itself from the degraded masses, and is being augmented every day. These men are all artisans, business men, or engaged in professional pursuits. The three points which need to be empinasized are: (1) Education should be more practical and less classical; (2) cooperative effort on the part of colored people should be encouraged; (3) there must be more separation between the whites and the trifity blacks are bec

the white man by his lower but by his higher civilization. Business relations between the whites and the thrifty blacks are becoming more common."

"What about the industrial situation?"

"There are a great many independent colored farmers scattered over the Southern States. The negroes do the hoft of the farm work. They stick to the rural districts more generally than the young white men, and they are fast buying up abacdoned farms. I verily believe that they will ultimately take the places of the poor whites as the small farmers of the South. We have a large element of this poor white class, which lacks the usual Auglo-Saxon thrift and ateadfastness. The major part of the unskilled labor and a large percentage of the skilled labor of the South are done by negroes. They are our masons, blacksmiths, wheelwrights, and the like. I think they will hold on to this industrial advantage, unaffected by the infusion of foreign elements."

"What do you think about the African colonization scheme?"

"It is out of the question. The Southern white man doesn't want the colored man to leave; he can't get along without him. They understand each other as employer and employee as no other two such forces anywhere. They ought to, as they have wintered and summered it together from the foundation of the Government.

"As to politics? My opinion is that people who have mutual intorests may differ as to how they shall secure them, but they have the same each in view. Politics reduces itself to a question of taxation. Those who own the property and pay the taxes are going to control the State. Now, when black men own property and pay the taxes are going to control the State. Now, when black men own property and pay taxes to a greater extent than is now true, they will have more representatation in the management of the State. They understand this aspect of the question. Our inheritance of poverty and ignorance was bequeathed us by the nation. As such it is a deut of honor and humanity the nation of slavery was a national question. Th

acknowledgment of this mutual responsibility

acknowledgment of this mutual responsibility and obligation."

"What is the Afro-American doing to help himself in the South?"

"As individuals, large numbers are becoming independent and respected; but until very recently, they have lacked the essential of colporative offort, without which substantial progress is imposeible. They are progressing as individuals. Thrown upon their own resources, and forced to rely upon political forces at home instead of abroad, they have concluded that they must look out for themselves. Having ceased to have political shadows they have begun to chase material substances. In Lextmeton, for instance, we have many business enterprises conducts I entirely by colored men. There is a large number of horsemen, truck and stock farmers, several furniture dealers, and one or two talloring establishments; there are three or four successful physicians, two lawyers in fair practice, and one food newspaper; our principal artisans are negroes, and all our schools are conducted by colored teachers, the schools being of a very high order. In a certain way the colored people are doing a great deal for themselves, and we have a right to expect that individual development will be more general and noticeable in the future.

"Oh yes; there are plenty of hopeful signs, if we will only stop to observe them. I have been spending some two months in the North observing the conditions in every city along the coast, and it is, my candid opinion, after a careful study of the situation, that the only field for the proper development of the Afro-American'is in the Southern States. The real hotherly, heart feeling for the negro is to be found in the North is based mainly on sentiment—what is understood as philanthropic sentiment. Northern people do not want the negro is to be found in the north is based mainly on sentiment—what is understood as philanthropic sentiment. Worthern people do not want the negro is to the member having had a colored servant meet ment the door of any house where I called. The negroes

THE YOUNG MAN. That is to Say One Kind of a Young Man

Do you see the young man? # I see the young man. What is his name? Something with a hyphen in it. Where is he from?

No place in particular: he is equally a product of all large cities and a few small ones. Isn't he ever from the country? No; he is an artificial growth. Where did he get his clothes? London.

Why there? Because he is a very swell young man. Ah! Then he must have money? He bas. How did he make it?

He didn't. He was born that way. It's the uncarned increment that he is drawng on, is it? Not exactly; his father earned it.

Ah? Yes. Do fathers owe their sons a living? The sons think so.

No: there are some millionaires' sons who are as good men as their fathers were, and with a better start. This young man is not that kind? Hardly.

What does he do for a livelihood? Oh, very many things. What, for instance?

Sits at his club window and gazes at girls; rides a little; drives sometimes, does society. lirts during the summer in the mountains or by the sea, runs over to Europe, takes in the races, drops in at the theatres, yachts it a bit, coaches in fine weather, bets on sporting events, drinks when he wants to, smokes a good deal, plays a card occasionally, eats. leeps, and so forth.

Does he ever read? He doesn't have to; he's in society. But he ought to know something? He does: he knows all the best people, all he best cooks, the best brands of cigars and champagne, and a lot of other useful things.

Certainly; he lives with his father. He has a good home, then? Of course; an elegant one; the house cost

Is the cost of the house any indication of the kind of a home it is? It seems to be so considered.

It's a pity he isn't domestic in his tastes so he could marry. Oh, bless your life, he doesn't want to.

Could he, if he wanted to? He could, indeed. He doesn't look it. Looks don't count. He's rich and in the vim, and he could pick the girl he wanted for

wife and get her. Didn't I say he was rich and in the swim? But is that happiness—a woman's happiness Of course, why not? That's the kind of a nan the girls seem to want most.

All girls? Oh, no; there are a few old-fashloned ones ft, who have quaint ideas that their husbands hould be manly men.

Does the young man know this? Whether he does or not, he does not care: s rife of that character would make life a burden to him.

She would demand the devotion of a true Wouldn't he give it to her? He might for the first few months. After

that the club would claim him. Wouldn't home and a good wife be far pleasanter and better? He isn't built that way. Who's to blame?

His environments. Would he be contented with a frivolous Not with her, probably, but away from her; and he would marry her because he could do

as he pleased, while she was doing as she pleased. Is that the true theory of marriage? It is the practice where money is the matri-

nonial factor.

Couldn't this young man inaugurate a reorm in this respect? Hardly; martyrs are born, not made.

Not necessarily; but there is no demand What would be do if reform were forced upon

Go abroad, where professional idiars have recognition. Is he a professional idler? Why not? What does the father think about it?

When he isn't too busy to think about it, he

satisfied, so long as the young man doesn't o anything to disgrace an honored name. He has an honored name, then? Yes, by inheritance. What does his mother think of him? Oh, he doesn't see her very often; she doesn't

old the purse. Would he, if she did? Yes, indeed; often. Has he got a good mother? Really I don't know. In fact I don't think he ver had a mother at all, for I never heard

Are mothers unfashionable? Children are. What would the roung man do if his father ecame bankrupt? He never would speak to the "old chump"

again, and take to drinking a particular brand of champage for a compensation. Don't you suppose he becomes tired of himelf sometimes? Of course; but it is good form to be tired of

verything. Will he keep right at this all his life? What else is there for him to do? But he can't stand it always? You don't know him.

nim refer to her in any way.

THEOSOPHISTS "IN RETREAT."

RURAL HOME FOR BELLEVERS IN MA-HATMAS AND ASTRAL BODIES.

It Is a Lorge Farm Near Corinth, N. T. Mere Bisciples of Bisvatsky Spend Their Vacation in Best and Meditation,

CORINTH, N.Y., July 15 .- A bright-faced young man sat beneath a spreading maple tree enraged in a variety of occupations. He was smoking a cigarette for comfort, reading a book for information, and rocking a baby for useful occupation. The baby lay pillowed in a nammock and blinked contentedly at the play of sunshine and shade in the leaves above its send. At a little distance a black-haired. pleasant-faced woman was superintending table arrangements for dinner. A big beech protected the table from the mid-afternoon heat, and the green of the grass beneath and of the leaves overhanging the hospitable board gave an added charm to the dainty display of linen, silver, and chinaware. Back of this stood a big house, the rear portion stained with age but recently retired to purely kitchen uses, the front just taking shape in all the pride of newness and size. Upon this addition-if such a term may be applied to the larger part of m structure-some twenty men were busily engaged in the various tasks that combine for the making of a handsome residence. Barearmed women bent over tubs in the laundry yard, and from the fleids still further away came the shouts of drivers to their horses and the clink of hoes against the rocky hillside.

Beyond all this, place a not very distant background of low-lying mountains, treecovered, hazy, indeterminate as to beginning or end, and suggesting in their arrangemen the billows of the ocean, and one may form some idea of the spot chosen by the Theoso phists of America for a home to which any disciple of the great Indian philosophy wil hereafter be welcome. The idea that has thus taken practical form has in it many elements on the social side that prevailed at the famous Brook Farm haif a century ago, but the visitors do not engage in manual labor as did the splen did enthusiasts of 1842. They employ their time in rest, study, and comparison of views An experienced farmer and his wife have charge of the place, and they in turn are re sponsible to Mr. H. Maschmedt, a New York business man, who is the society's manager and might appropriately be called the A. B.

de Frece of theosophy.

When the reporter turned from the road. which rups up hill and down hill, in width no greater than a lane, and which is bordered with the farewell bloom of roses and the senson's first show of tiger illies, the young man who was displaying his versatility as a devotee of literature, tobacco, and the human race stopped rocking the baby and looked up.
"You wish to see Mr. Maschmedt?" he

"Well, I will try to find him. He has asked. developed altogether too much energy since we came here. One moment he is in the fields. at another in the house, and quite often when the ladies wish to drive out we find the carriage horses gone. And why? Mr. Masch-medt is off at the village or station on some errand of importance. But I'll hunt for him so soon as I've taken our baby to the house." Thereupon he picked up the cooing infant with an expertness that argued practice.

"Is it yours?" the young man was asked. For the first time the cigarette dropped from his lips. He gasped a bit and then replied:
"No, indeed! We call it our baby because we all pet it. It belongs to the farmer and

About the petting there could be no doubt.

dodo and resented the appellation. She "didn't know what it meant, but was sure it was something nasty." So with the local theosogians. They have still to inform themselves on theosophy, but meanwhile a few have settled it that the visitors are "worse'n infidels and don't believe in the Bible or anything else." Criticism of this sort finds one invariable ending: "Oh, well, it don't matter what they believe as long as they keep to themselves, and then just lock at the money they're spending! Why, in buying land, putting up a house, purchase of stock and supplies, and hiring men, they've already laid out over \$10,000."

Declining a cordial invitation to remain and partake of a vegetarism dinner, the reporter said good-by to the colonists at the roadside. He essayed one parting question:

"I notice you all speak of the baby as 'it.' Is it a hoy or a girl?"

"Why, think of it! None of us has asked!"

MRS. VAN KLEVVER'S FLOP.

It Was Not After Jerry Crancher's Style but Was Very Comforting. "Well, Nancy, I've flopped again!" said Mrs

Van Klevver, sinking into an easy chair opposite Miss De Korus. The latter young woman stared in horror. "Calm yourself. Nancy." said Mrs. Van levver. "Don't you know that I'm quoting? Klevver. Really, dear, you ought to brush up on your reading. Take out your 'Tale of Two Cities,' look it over, and you will find this phrase; "Jerry, your ma's flopped agin!" I shall

have to take you up to my new study and read It to you."

Your new study?" "Certainly, my dear. It's all on account of it that I've fl—! Oh, well! if you don't like the expression I won't repeat it. But here is the story. You know, was down in my hear of hearts. I am the most arrant Bohemian that ever lived. Indeed, I do have a hard fight sometimes to keep on the right side of the proprieties, and every little while I simply break over the boundary, and, as a German friend of mine says, I 'smash the convention.' "I did it this morning and that is the reason that I startled you with the announcement

"Katharine!" remorstrated Miss De Korus. "Well, well, Nanoy! I'll be good," laughed Mrs. Van Klovver. "Yesterday I went to church and the minister preached most delightfully about communion with nature. Lying under the trees; great blue vault over head; songs of birds; whisperings of leaves; soft breath of the wind-oh! you know how they talk. Well, all day my mental appetite simply gnawed my mind with a hunger for the trees, sky, birds, leaves, et cetera, and this morning I took a couple of books and started for the park. As I left the house, the postman handed me a letter from Jack-who, by the way, will be home to-morrow-so I put i in my pocket and took it with me."

And was it nice?" asked Miss De Korus. "Beautiful."

"Tell me about it."

"Well, there were a great many people there and when you're to commune with nature you know you must forswear 'the madding crowd.'

and when you're to commune with nature you know you must forswear 'the madding crowd.' So I walked and walked and walked, but whereever I escaped humanity I was sure to run up against a sign warning me off the grass. Of course it was absolutely necessary to my purpose that I should lie on 'ne grass, so I plodded on until I found a moderately sequestered snot near the Eighth avenue entrance at Fifty-ninth street. There were few people there and the grass was open to occupation."

"You didn't lie down, did you?"

"Oh yes, I did. I looked up at the sky, whish was so bright that it hurt my eyes; then I turned them to the things around me. There were caterpillars, and mosquitoes, and little green bugs, and a sort of June bug which kept up a sawing sound with some portion of its anatomy. And there were some little boys whose language, if I should repeatit, mightbe interesting but could never be called elegant. And there was a very spoony couple who loiled on the grass as I did. And there were some very messy children, and—oh! It was beautiful. I had a volume of Daudet's stories with me, and I read the one about the Sous-prefet who left his carriage and wandered into a grove in one of the Parls parks. The Sous-prefet had a joyful time. He revelled in communion with nature. He finally unbuttoned his walstooat in the exuberance of his pleasure and expanded with delight.

"I reread the part about the walstooat, and meditated. Evidently, I was too restrained in my enjoyment. I needed to expand. So I questioned myself, and I found that my right foot was the point where the expansion should begrin. (Positively, I am going to have my next shoes on a 5 D last!) I had walked far, tin day was warm, and my feet were tired. So, sustained and soothed by the remembrance of be the search and the citarents dropped from his lips. He gamed a bit and the rovellest.

Not indeed! We call it our buby beaues his wife.

Not indeed! We call it our buby beaues his wife.

Not indeed! We call it our buby beaues his wife.

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NEW YORK'S NEGRO SCHOOLS.

COLOR LINES FADED WHERE BLACKS PERISHED IN THE DRAFT RIOTS.

National Feeling of the Young Sons of Ram -Tendency of the Negro Boys to Form Themselves Into Patriotic Associations. The negroes of this city may be separated into two general divisions: Those who are industrious and desire to rise above the racial prejudices which are the results and remaining influences of slavery; and those who, without any occupation save that of odd jobs, have no ambition toward rising in the social scale. Of the latter, a certain class of colored people in the vicinity of Bleecker street and South Fifth avenue are a type. They have no occupation; many of them are criminals, and none of them are useful citizens, or have any desire to be-

come such. It is the first mentioned class that is now endeavoring, by self-improvement and education, to prove itself worthy of being reckoned on the same footing as ellows. It is this class whose children fill the schools, and themselves are organizing in clubs and societies. Of the distinctively negro public shools there are two-one on Forty-second street, between Seventh and Eighth avenues, and the other on Seventeenth street, between Sixth and Seventh avenues.

These schools have no white pupils, and all the teachers are colored. The one on Fortysecond street, of which Mrs. Eto is principal. has about 175 scholars, who are instructed in the various common branches. This school draws mostly from West Porty-seventh and Forty-ninth streets and the vicinity. It has been in existence, though not in its present locality. for about forty years.

Of the Seventeenth street school Mrs. S. J. S. Garnet, widow of Henry Highland Garnet, is principal. Like the other school it is under the control of the Board of Education, and is run on the same principle as all other public schools. Owing to the tendency on the part of the colored residents of the crowded tenement district in West Twenty-seventh and adjacent streets to move up town, where there is more room, this school has fallen off in numbers of late years. There are still about 100 pupils.

Of the colored pupils a large proportion go into commercial pursuits or become artisans. A few of the boys enter the City College after graduation, and about the same proportion of the girls go through the Normal Behool. The negro scholars are apt to be quicker at reading, spelling, and geography than at mathematics, and are particularly clever at drawing. the colored school exhibits in this branch being of a noticeably high grade.

Besides their equicational advantages, the

schools serve a good purpose in that they tend to hold the colored people together and to form ties that aid them in organizing. Among the pupils in the schools nearly as many are children of parents who have recently come up from the South as of parents who are native New Yorkers, and through the children the two classes assimilate. Of the most prominent colored men and women in this city a large proportion are graduates of these institutions. One of the ideas impressed upon these school children is the necessity of securing for themselves and their fellows recognition as valued citizens of the community without prejudice on account of their color. Out of this prejudice on account of their color. Out of this feeling, as much as from their natural tendency to draw together, their organizations and clubs arise. There are many organizations of Afro-Americans, religious, social and literary, and of these a few are worthy of mention because of their size and importance.

The best known is the Society of the Sons of New York, which has its club house at 153 West Fifty-third street. The club is nine years old and numbers 622 members. None but colored men born in New York State are eligible. The club published some years ago a pamphlet from which the following, telling its aims and purposes, is taken:

the alms and purposes, is taken:

The Society of the Sons of New York, fraternal in principles, was created for the promotion of charity fellowship, and closer relations among those to tile manor born, thereby laying the carner stone of a social and intellectual structure that will ever stand as a monument to our worth and integrity. The idea of such a society had long existed crudely in the fininds of men of New York birth, but it was not put into practical form until the summer of 1884, when a few gentlemen met and informally discussed the feast-billity of such and organization. Much diversity of opinion was explessed in regard to its propriety or success. Some feared that its creation would give opportunity for misrepresentation of its objects or purposes, thereby leading many of our best opinion of clanifers that the society was created in a spirit of clanifers that the society was created in a print of clanifers that the society was created in a print of clanifers that the society stated among our fellow elfren. Other societies existed among our fellow elfrens or prejudice and one against these new idea, and there is no valid reason why it sheald not exist, so long as its objects or principles are not finincial to the interests of our alien breather.

We are cosmopolitan, and conscious that the interests of our people are identical. We therefore welcome to this community every good and true man and woman, regardless of birthplace or previous condition, thereby recognizing the truth that this great distribution of the blood and brain, brawn and muscles of the evilized world, giving scope for development, under who and interest and progressive commonwealth is the result of the emigration of the blood and brain, brawn and muscles of the civilized world, giving scope for development, under who and interest and progres

et the civilized world, giving scope for development, under wise and liberal Government.

The club house on West Fifty-third street is roomy and prettily furnished. A library of 500 volumes was given to the club a few months ago by a number of ladies who are interested in the organization.

Among other members are William H. Ross, William H. Carter. Thomas B. Francis, George F. Titus, James F. Williams, Hannibal Ritter, Peter Anderson, William R. Jackson, Edward G. Lawrence, and Samuel Manning.

A very different kind of organization is the Women's Loyal Union. This is an association of colored women without political blass former and for the purpose of influencing public opinion in favor of the negroes, and in particular to thing to the public mind a sense of the injustice and brutality of the lyng rings in the South and West.

Another organization of colored people is nowbuilding a summer home for children on Lona Island to be known as the Garnet Memoria Home, in memory of Henry Highland Garnes. All of these organizations are of large membership. There are such a large number of social, politicious, and political organizations of small size among the colored room who is not a member of cone or more of them, and every such organization makes for the higher education of the nearo and a catablishment in public opinion as a value citizen.

REFOOTED SNAKE SLAYER. Just Lixty-three Rattlesnakes the One Day's

Spoil of a Virginia Malden.

From the Frederickburg Stor.

While we are telling snake stories the following good one comes to us from the mountain region, Mr. E. T. Dulin standing as authority. The country around Little Big Black Mountain is a gineng region, and the Parker family are noted as "sengers." The girls go out barefooted in the mountains, though the country is infested with rattlesnakes and copperhends, and dig the ginseng, for which they get good prices at the atores, from which it is taken to Fennington Gap for shipment.

But along Clover Gap and up Rattlesnake Greek there are numberless reptiles. Beckie Parker is a good girl, about 19 years of age, strong, healthy looking, and handsome, but with a very determined face. She is a splendid shot, and often takes her Winchester.

But goes after gineeng barefooted and often alone. The roots are gathered in May and september, and during the month just past she did a thriving business. One day, nowever, she came across a den of rattlesnakes, she had only atones and sticks with which to fight the desperate battle. Some of the snakes were larger than a man's arm, and few of them as large as the calf of a man's leg. For hours she fought them as they hissed and writhed and rattled around her. But the brave, determined girl battled with them until she extermined girl battled with them on the dense undergrowth. When she had crushed the last one to be seen she counted the dead. and there were just sixty-three.

THE BELLE OF RITTLESNAKE HILLS. Rivals Fought for Her. Cambled for Her,

Then She Married the Parson.

Brokane. Wash., July 10.—Annie Thomas is the only woman in Kamania county. She is a squatter, and lives in licttle-snake ifills. There has of late been a great strife for her hand in marriage among the rough settlers of that region. Hans Monley and Jerry Woods seemed to be the highest in her favor, and so it was linally agreed that these two men should settle the question between them by a dred with bowie knives. After a desperate fight, in which both were wounded, the battle was declared a draw. It was then agreed that the matrimonial question should be settled as a game of seven-up. The fortune of cards layout Monley and he was declared the winner of the squatter bride. A parson was called in to assure him his prize. The fickle Annie had a long talk with the parson and, though she had never seen him before, she at last announced her intention of marrying the parson himself and not Monley. In vain did the here of the bowie knife duel and the victor in the same of seven-up object to this proceeding. The From the Chicago Tribune.